

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 066892
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER:LHW/JFC
APPROVED BY NEA - MR. ATHERTON
S/S-O:SVALERGA

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV FLASH
INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 066892

EXDIS, DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS, FOR CHARGE VIETS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, PBOR, MOPS, IS, LE

SUBJECT: SOUTH LEBANON SITUATION

1. YOU WILL NOT REPEAT NOT HAVE INSTRUCTIONS IN TIME
FOR YOUR MEETING WITH WEIZMAN TONIGHT, AND PERHAPS NOT
EARLY TOMORROW MORNING.
YOU SHOULD THEREFORE CONDUCT YOUR TALK WITH WEIZMAN
ALONG THE LINES SUGGESTED TO YOU BY AMBASSADOR LEWIS IN
HIS TELEPHONE TALK WITH YOU EARLIER TODAY (I.E. TRY TO AS-
CERTAIN ISRAELI INTENTIONS, HOW LONG THEY MIGHT STAY,
VIEWS TOWARD UN FORCE, ETC.) YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN THAT YOU
WILL BE SEEKING INSTRUCTIONS ON THE BASIS OF THE INFORMA-
TION AND COMMENTS GIVEN TO YOU BY WEIZMAN.

2. AT SOME POINT IN YOUR TALK, HOWEVER, YOU SHOULD SAY--
UNDER INSTRUCTIONS--THAT WE BELIEVE THE ISRAELIS SHOULD
CEASE ANY MILITARY ACTIVITIES NORTH OF THE LITANI SUCH AS
AIR RAIDS IN THE BEIRUT AREA. THE ISRAELIS HAVE MADE THEIR
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POINT AND THE RISKS COMPLICATE THE SITUATION FURTHER.

3. LEBANESE CASUALTIES TOOK PLACE IN THE BEIRUT ATTACK, AND
PEOPLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST ARE MAKING THE POINT THAT, IN SUCH
RAIDS, ISRAEL IS STRIKING AS MUCH AT THE LEBANESE AS AT THE
PALESTINIANS. IN ADDITION, ATTACKS NORTH OF THE LITANI IN-

CREASE THE RISKS OF SYRIAN INVOLVEMENT THROUGH THEIR ANTI-

AIRCRAFT MISSILE DEFENSE.

4. FYI: WITHOUT OF COURSE SAYING SO YOU SHOULD BEAR
IN MIND THAT WE WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO APPROACH THE
ISRAELIS IN THE NEAR FUTURE ABOUT WITHDRAWING THEIR FORCES
FROM LEBANON. WE INTEND TO MAKE SURE THIS APPROACH IS
MADE PRIVATELY TO THE ISRAELIS BEFORE WE GO PUBLIC.
END FYI. VANCE

SECRET

NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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